

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the presently pending claims so as to read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A color image forming apparatus comprising:
a first image processing unit and a second image processing unit, each having,
a photosensitive body,
exposing means for forming an electrostatic latent image by
exposing a surface of said photosensitive body, and
a plurality of developing devices for supplying said electrostatic latent image with toner,
each of said plurality of developing devices withholding toner of a different color provided that one of said developing devices in said first image processing unit withholds black toner,
a color image being formed by transferring toner images formed on said photosensitive bodies in said first and second image processing units so as to be superimposed over one another;
additional information composite means for producing a composite image by combining a chief monochrome image with additional information, said additional information forming an image different from said chief monochrome image; and

control means for having a first image processing unit form said chief monochrome image and said second image processing unit form the image of said additional information,

said chief monochrome image and said image of said additional information being formed simultaneously when said chief monochrome image is to be combined with said image of said additional information in a color other than black to produce a composite image.

2. (Original) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 1, wherein:
said additional information is identification information which identifies a particular device, and
said additional information composite means produces the composite image by combining said identification information with said chief monochrome image.
3. (Original) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said control means has said plurality of developing devices in said second image processing unit operate simultaneously for an electrostatic latent image of said additional information to form the image of said additional information.

4. (Currently Amended) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 1, wherein, of all of said plurality of developing devices in said second processing unit, a developing device withholding a lighter color is positioned ~~in an~~ upstream in a direction in which said photosensitive body rotates.
5. (Original) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 1, wherein, of all of the plurality of developing devices, developing devices withholding the black toner and at least one of color toners used for forming the image of said additional information have a larger toner capacity than the rest of said plurality of developing devices.
6. (Original) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 1, wherein, of all of said plurality of developing devices, a developing device withholding the black toner has a largest toner capacity, and a rest of said plurality of developing devices are of an identical structure.
7. (Currently Amended) A color image forming apparatus comprising:
a first image processing unit and a second image processing unit, each having:
a photosensitive body,
an exposing device for forming an electrostatic latent image by exposing a surface of said photosensitive body, and
a plurality of developing devices each supplying said electrostatic latent image with toner of a different color provided that one of said plurality of developing devices in said first image processing unit withholds black toner,

a color image being formed by transferring toner images formed on said photosensitive bodies in said first and second image processing units so as to be superimposed over one another;
an additional information composite section for producing a composite image by combining a chief monochrome image with additional information, said additional information forming an image different from said chief monochrome image; and
a central processing unit for having said first image processing unit form said chief monochrome image and said second image processing unit form the image of said additional information,
said chief monochrome image and said image of said additional information being formed simultaneously when said chief monochrome image is to be combined with said image of said additional information in a color other than black to produce a composite image.

8. (Original) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said additional image composite means includes an additional information memory for storing said additional information.

9. (Currently Amended) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising an intermediate transfer belt, provided in a position to oppose said photosensitive ~~body~~ bodies in each of said first and second image processing units, so that a color image is formed as by toner images on said photosensitive bodies that are transferred ~~thereon~~ onto said intermediate transfer belt so as to be superimposed over one another.
10. (Original) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of developing devices is a non-contacting type which develops the electrostatic latent image formed on the surface of said photosensitive body without physically contacting said photosensitive body.
11. (Original) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 1, wherein:
one of said plurality of developing devices in said second image processing unit withholds yellow toner; and
said additional information is identification information for identifying a particular device and the image thereof is formed with said yellow toner by said second image processing unit.
12. (Original) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 11, wherein each of said developing devices withholding the yellow toner and black toner has a larger toner capacity than a rest of said plurality of developing devices.

13. (Currently Amended) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 1,
wherein the image of said additional information is formed by
adding toner of different colors withheld in said plurality of
developing devices in said ~~second~~ first image processing unit.
14. (Original) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 1, wherein an image
of said additional information is formed by toner of a color selected
from the group consisting of yellow, magenta and cyan.
15. (Currently Amended) A color image forming apparatus comprising:
first and a second image processing units for forming toner images of
different colors, respectively;
a layering section for layering said toner images formed by said
first and second image processing units;
image data lines respectively serving as first and second systems,
said first and second systems selectively sending image
data of respective corresponding colors based ~~of~~ on an
original image to said first and second image processing
units; and
an additional information memory, connected to said image data
line serving as said second system, for storing additional
image data which forms an image different from said
original image and will be combined with said image data
sent to said image line serving as said second system to
produce a composite image.

said second image processing unit being another image processing unit than said first image processing unit whose one of said plurality of developing devices withholds black toner, and forms said image of said additional image data, and said original image and said image of said additional image data being formed simultaneously when said original image is a monochrome image and is to be combined with said image of said additional image data in a color other than black to produce a composite image.

16. Canceled, without prejudice.

17. (Original) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 15, wherein said second image processing unit forms a yellow toner image.

18. (Original) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 15, wherein said additional information memory stores image data of identification information for identifying a particular device which has formed said original image.

19. (Original) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 15, wherein said additional information memory stores image data of a particular pattern as a predetermined image.

Please add the following new claims 20 – 26:

20. (New Claim) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 1, wherein:
the additional information is a particular pattern exhibiting
a nature of a document.
21. (New Claim) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 1, wherein:
the additional information is a pattern image which is
electronic information of a character, an image, and/or
voice, in a form of bar codes.
22. (New Claim) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 7, wherein:
the additional information is a particular pattern exhibiting
a nature of a document.
23. (New Claim) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 7, wherein:
the additional information is a trace pattern exhibiting
identification information for identifying a device.
24. (New Claim) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 7, wherein:
the additional information is a pattern image which is
electronic information of a character, an image, and/or
voice, in a form of bar codes.
25. (New Claim) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 15, wherein:
the additional information memory stores a particular
pattern exhibiting a nature of a document.

26. (New Claim) The color image forming apparatus of Claim 15, wherein:
the additional information memory stores a pattern image
which is electronic information of a character, an image,
and/or voice, in a form of bar codes.